Organization and Manning for WS 117L Program

WDT WDTR NOV 6 1956
Lt Col Oder/eh/1344

1. Western Development Division has been assigned the responsibility for the development of WS 117L, a system many times more complex and sophisticated than any yet attempted. It has been determined that the WDD will, with the assistance of the ARDC Centers and other consultants, provide the technical direction and management of this program. The attached organization and manning is what we believe will be required to adequately do this job. Personnel selected to fill the positions in the proposed organization should be carefully selected to assure top quality management and direction of the various facets of the system.

2. In considering our manning requirements for approval there are several factors which should be given consideration:

a. WS 117L has ten (10) closely interrelated subsystems as well as a flight test program and a program in the measurement of the external environment. Because of the technical intricacies of each of these and the many problems posed by their individual development together with the economical integration of these into a workable and usable system, considerable supervision of the prime contractor (and his subcontractual efforts) by the WSPO is mandatory. Without such supervision the costs of the program would undoubtedly be much higher than would be the case with close Air Force supervision.

b. Because of previous management decisions, the WS 117L Project Office, unlike the case of WS 107A-1, WS 107A-2 and WS 315A, is solely responsible for the technical direction and program management for the government for the ARS. For this reason, comparisons between the authorized strength of WDTR and the other WDD project offices are not too valid.

c. Program complexity rather than total funding should be the yardstick for WSPO manning. The cost to the Air Force of the proposed WSPO manning is, nevertheless, quite reasonable in relation to the amount of money which will be spent on contract.

3. This process of screening and selecting personnel to man the organization will take time. However, it is felt that the following goals are the optimum rate of build-up:

a. Personnel on hand as of 5 November 1956:

1 Assistant for WS 117L	Lt Colonel
1 Deputy Assistant for WS 117L (Acts as Chief, System Integration Branch)	Commander
1 Chief, Plans and Programs Branch	Lt Colonel
1 Chief, Resources Management Section	Major
5 System Integration Project Officers	1 Major, 3 Captains and 1-1/Lt.
9 Total 9 Assigned Officer Personnel	

b. Planned build-up to 1 January 1957:

1 Chief, Facilities and Test Branch
1 Facilities and Equipment Project Officer
1 Test Plans and Logistics Project Officer
2 Product Engineering Project Officers
5 System Integration Project Officers
1 Resources Management Project Officer
1 Program Management Project Officer
12 Total additional personnel
21 Total assigned officers

c. Planned build-up to 1 July 1957:

2 Program Management Project Officers
1 Resources Management Project Officers
2 Product Engineering Project Officers
2 Facilities and Equipment Project Officers
1 Test Plan and Test Logistics Project Officers
9 Total additional personnel
30 Total assigned officer personnel

d. By 1 January 1958 certain subsystems of the WS 117L will have reached the point of limited production. This will require six (6) additional military personnel in the System Engineering Section. (Not shown on the organization chart)

Total goal military personnel by 1 January 1958 is estimated to be 36 officers.

e. Civilian support personnel required:

1 GS-7 Administrative Assistant for Assistant for WS 117L
9 Secretary-typists - 8 each GS-4; 1 each GS-5

Secretaries to be assigned as follows:

3 in Plans and Programs
3 in System Engineering
2 in Facilities and Test
1 in the Office of Deputy Assistant for WS 117L

The build-up rate for secretarial help would be proportional to the military personnel build-up rate.

4. As you can see from the proposed organization chart and the job descriptions submitted, we intend to make full use of the presently existing staff functions within WDD. For example, the Facilities Group will, of necessity, work very closely with the WDI organization; the Plans and Operations functions will be closely coordinated and accomplished with the assistance of associated parts of WDT, WDS and WDO, etc.

5. Since there will be considerable effort required to recruit the number and type of personnel required to man the proposed organization, it is requested that we be authorized to requisition personnel up to the 1 January 1957 level immediately. Counting those officers on hand and under orders (less a loss of one (1) to WDTC per agreement with Colonel Norton and Colonel Glasser on 1 Nov 1956) an additional ten (10) officer vacancies will be required to bring the authorized strength to the proposed twenty-one (21) by 1 January 1957.

SIGNED

FREDERIC C. E. CDER
Lt Colonel, USAF
Assistant for WS 117L
Technical Operations

1 Incl
Organization and Manning
for WS 117L (bound)